

Finally: make this a consecration meeting. Here is a golden opportunity. Leader, make the best use of it. Obtain an expression from those that will consecrate themselves to the service of God. Have them stand. Make a consecration prayer. Ask the pastor to assist you. Do not neglect your associate members. Ask them to take the next step at this meeting.

**THE ABIDING INFLUENCE**—Heb. 11:4; Matt. 26:18

Topic for Jan. 20

Somewhere I have read of a young man who had a remarkable genius for making machines. Upon one occasion the idea came to him that no sound nor act of ours was ever lost and that it was possible to make a machine which would reproduce not only all our sounds and the motions caused by our actions, but their whole history of them both as well. The machine was made and set in motion. It did what the young man thought it would. It had a wonderful history to unfold. All men came to hear it. Some went away joyfully, others sorrowfully, some satisfied others wholly dissatisfied.

The story, whether we believe it or not, illustrates beautifully the lesson for the evening. It is a story of the influence of our activities. It shows according to the further development of the story what our lives have had to do in shaping the lives of others. No man liveth unto himself. Every activity of ours has its influence. Our activities do not end in us not with us. And we can not withstand this. The question is not one that we can settle. The grain of musk does nothing—loses nothing—yet it leaves behind a scent that will endure for years. So our actions and words that are sweet and light will leave a lingering odor like that from the broken alabaster box that will fill not only the room but the whole world.

Whether our influence shall be for the good or the bad, uplifting or otherwise depends upon the motive that inspires us to act. If the motive is selfish it can not but be hurtful to others. We should act, therefore, so as to strengthen men not weaken them. Our influence should always be thrown upon the side of good. We should read and thus influence others to read good literature. We should never allow unclean and hurtful language to soil our lips. We should always be free from and above gossip. Life is short and our greatest care should be to do such things that will not only make our lives better for the doing but that shall live after us to make the world better for our having lived in it. And as we live let us keep this thought before us each day: that we are not done with our life when we leave it; we must meet, shall meet, sometime, somewhere our act and words again.

**BIBLE READING: INFLUENCE**

- 1 Influence of our words, Prov. 15:1, 23; 16:24; 25:11; Matt. 12:35-37.
- 2 Influence of our acts, Mk. 14:8, 9; Rom. 14:13, 21; 1 Cor. 8:8-13.
- 3 Influence of our lives, Isa. 32:2; Mk. 7:20-23; Luke 6:45; Rev. 22:11.
- 4 The supreme motive for all life's attempts—to the glory of God, Matt. 5:16; John 15:8; Phil. 2:14-16; 1 Pet. 2:11, 12; John 8:29; John 4:34.

**TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION**

- 1 What do you understand by *influence* in the moral and spiritual worlds?
- 2 In how far has one the power to determine what his influence shall be?
- 3 Why ought our lives become influences for good?
- 4 How may we increase our influence?
- 5 If one finds his influence hurtful, how may he make it helpful?
- 6 Why are opportunities for influence so great in the present age?
- 7 What fields of opportunity for influence are especially open to the young people of to-day?
- 8 What fields of opportunity for influence are open and opening to-day for the young people of the Brethren church?

9 What can our influence do toward making the world receive with more favor our distinctive doctrines?

WM. D. FURRY, B. A.

**Lanark, Ill. K. C.**

Another year has come and gone: In looking back over the past let us praise God for the blessings that have attended us, but feel we have done so little in his service; we discover many lost opportunities, privileges neglected, talent unimproved and much time wasted.

With thankful hearts for God's blessing upon us and with confession for the mistakes of the past, let us look into the future with the determination to make the coming year the banner year in the history of our Young People's society. We believe each member of our society should feel a responsibility with regard to improving the opportunities offered. We have some earnest and self-sacrificing young people who not only find a willingness to be present at the meetings, but a disposition to take part and to invite others with them.

A new century is open before us and never was there grander opportunity, nor greater need for the consecrated time and talent of young men and women than now, and there is no reasonable excuse why they should not be used to God's glory. We believe God is blessing the work here, the interest seems to be increasing, the meetings spiritual and the attendance very good. No one appreciates this any more than our faithful president whose heart is in the work. Let us continue to do our duty in this work, if we can do no more than speak a word of praise to those who have honestly done their best, like rain upon the thirsty earth or sunshine after a day of clouds, a kind word fitly spoken revives and warms us, how we shrink from those who censure either the manner of doing or the result of another's honest effort. This is not as it should be; we should be at least as ready to praise as blame. May the Lord give us grace and wisdom to do all he would have us do and do it well. Let each one say this is our work and "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might."

Brother Welty and family are with us and comfortably situated. God has greatly blessed us in sending Brother Welty who has charge of the work here. He is a good man well liked and we feel he is going to do a good work.

The church has had some trials and difficulties the past year but is coming out of them all right.

Let us not dwell on the actions and experiences of the past year but look forward to the bright and glimmering star of hope in the future, and resolve to be better men and women.

Our revival meetings began the first Sunday in the new year; we ask an interest in the prayers of all those interested in the welfare of the church. Pray that the church may be revived and many precious souls brought to Christ.

ALICE GORDON.

# Sisters' S. C. E.

## Treasure's Report of the S. S. C. E. for the month of September

### THEOLOGICAL FUND

Waterloo, Iowa,	S. S. C. E.	\$ 1 45
Homerville, Ohio,	"	50
Bethesda, Ohio,	"	1 00
Warsaw, Ind.,	"	1 00
New Highland, Ind.,	"	1 00
Loree, Indiana,	"	90
Corinth, Ind.,	On pledge	1 00
Mrs. Martha Hoover,	"	1 00
" H. J. Prichard,	"	1 00
" Sarah Kennedy,	"	1 00
" Sarah Wilson,	"	1 00
" Sadie Horner,	"	1 00
" A. H. Lichty,	"	1 00
" Laura Bauman,	"	1 00
" Rosalie Garrett,	"	1 00
" Annie Lewis,	"	1 00
" Etta Leslie,	"	1 00
" N. P. Eglis,	"	1 00
" Ida Phillips,	"	1 00
" Martha Hoover,	"	1 00
David Augustine,	"	1 00
D. Sargent,	"	1 00
H. S. Eyman,	"	1 00
Aaron Showalter,	"	1 00
Harvey Pottenger,	"	1 00
Vianna Detwiler,	"	1 00
Delpha Carson,	"	1 00
Mary Gransinger,	"	1 00
Annie I. Garber,	"	1 00
Mrs. Cordelia Bear, in full	"	3 00
Roann, Ind., King's Children,	"	5 57

\$ 37 42

To the treasure of Ashland college, 23 02

To balance, \$ 14 40

### HOME MISSION

Reported		\$ 130 66
Campbell, Mich.,	S. S. C. E.	90
Loree, Ind.,	"	90
Homerville Ohio,	Aid Society	50
Salisbury, Pa.,	" for Wash.,	2 45
Millersburg, Iowa,	S. S. C. E. on pledge	1 00
Quilt sold at N. Conference,	"	6 42
Pillow " " "	"	1 25

\$ 144 08

To the treasurer of N M B, 10 00

To balance \$ 134 08

### FOREIGN MISSION

Reported,		\$ 17 45
Campbell, Mich.,	S S C. E.	90
Lapaz, Ind.,	"	90
Homerville, Ohio,	Aid Society	50
David Augustine,	on pledge	1 00

To balance \$ 20 75

### SUPERANNUATED MINISTER'S FUND

Reported		\$ 15 44
Waterloo, Iowa,	S S C. E.	1 45
Lapaz, Ind.,	"	1 00
Warsaw, Ind.,	"	1 00
Meyersdale, Pa.,	"	3 00
Mrs. Sarah C Rinehart, in full on pledge	"	3 00
Millersburg, Iowa, S S C. E., on pledge,	"	1 00
Vianna Detwiler,	on "	1 00

To balance. \$ 26 89

### HOLSINGER FUND

Mrs. Sadie Horner,		1 00
Ida Simmonds,		75
Daniel Miller,		75
Josiah Mans,		50
J. S. Bair,		50